Namdhari in News 2016

ਜੰਗ ਏ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਵਿਚ ਕੂਕਾ ਲਹਿਰ ਤੇ ਬਾਬਾ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਦੇ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਨੂੰ ਲਾਸਾਨੀ ਦਸਿਆ

ਨਵੀਂ ਦਿੱਲੀ, 30 ਜਨਵਰੀ (ਅਮਨਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ): ਕੂਕਾ ਲਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਮੋਢੀ ਬਾਬਾ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਦਾ ਜਨਮ ਦਿਹਾੜਾ ਮਨਾਉਂਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਭਾਰਤ ਦੀ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਵਿਚ ਕੂਕਾ ਲਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਨੂੰ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਦਸਿਆ ਗਿਆ। ਇਥੋਂ ਦੇ ਨਾਮਧਾਰੀ ਗੁਰਦਵਾਰਾ, ਰਮੇਸ਼ ਨਗਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਬੀਤੇ ਦਿਨ ਸਜਾਏ ਗਏ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਦੀਵਾਨ ਵਿਚ ਦਿੱਲੀ ਸਣੇ ਨੋਇਡਾ ਤੇ ਗਾਜ਼ੀਆਬਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਵੀ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਪੁੱਜੀਆਂ।

ਸੰਗਤ ਨੂੰ ਸੰਬੋਧਨ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਬਾਬਾ ਉਦੇ ਸਿੰਘ।

ਸੰਗਤ ਨੂੰ ਸੰਬੋਧਨ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਬਾਬਾ ਉਦੇ ਸਿੰਘ ਨੇ ਨਾਮ ਸਿਮਰਨ ਕਰਨ, ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਤੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਰਵਾਇਤਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਜੁੜਨ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ 'ਤੇ ਜ਼ੋਰ ਦਿਤਾ। ਭਾਈ ਬਲਵੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨੇ ਤੰਤੀ ਸਾਜ਼ਾਂ ਨਾਲ 'ਆਸਾ ਕੀ ਵਾਰ' ਦਾ ਰਸਭਿੰਨਾ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਕੀਤਾ। ਜੱਥੇਦਾਰ ਨਿਸ਼ਾਨ ਸਿੰਘ, ਦਿੱਲੀ ਨੇ ਬਾਬਾ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਦੇ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਲਹਿਰ ਵਿਚ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਨੂੰ ਉਭਾਰਿਆ। ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਅਕਾਦਮੀ ਦੇ ਸਾਬਕਾ ਸਕੱਤਰ ਤੇ ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਵਕੀਲ ਸ.ਗੁਰਭੇਜ ਸਿੰਘ ਗੁਰਾਇਆ ਨੇ ਕਿਹਾ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੀ ਧਰਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਕੂਕਾ ਲਹਿਰ ਤੋਂ ਸੇਧ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਹੀ ਗਦਰ ਲਹਿਰ, ਸ਼ਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਕਾਂਗਰਸ ਨੇ ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਦੀ ਜੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਹਿੱਸਾ ਪਾਇਆ।

'ਸਤਿਜੁਗ' ਰਸਾਲੇ ਦੇ ਸੰਪਾਦਕ ਤੇ ਖੋਜਾਰਥੀ ਗੁਰਲਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਤੇ ਸਾਥੀਆਂ ਨੇ ਕਵੀਸ਼ਰੀ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਕੂਕਾ ਲਹਿਰ ਦੀ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਅਹਿਮੀਅਤ ਬਾਰੇ ਚਾਨਣਾ ਪਾਇਆ। ਜੱਥੇਦਾਰ ਨਿਸ਼ਾਨ ਸਿੰਘ, ਭੈਣੀ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਨੇ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ। ਇਸ ਮੌਕੇ ਸਾਬਕਾ ਐਮਪੀ ਤੇ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕਾਂਗਰਸ ਦੇ ਸਾਬਕਾ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸ.ਹਰਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਹੰਸਪਾਲ, ਤਿਲਕ ਨਗਰ ਤੋਂ 'ਆਪ' ਵਿਧਾਇਕ ਸ.ਜਰਨੈਲ ਸਿੰਘ, ਦਿੱਲੀ ਗੁਰਦਵਾਰਾ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੇ ਮੈਂਬਰਾਂ ਬੀਬੀ ਰਣਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ-ਸ.ਗੁਰਦੇਵ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸਾਬਕਾ ਮੈਂਬਰ ਸ.ਸਤਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸ.ਇੰਦਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਲਵਲੀ, ਕੌਂਸਲਰ ਅਲਕਾ ਢੀਂਗੜਾ, ਸਣੇ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਸੀਪਲ ਜਸਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ, ਡਾ.ਕੁਲਵੀਰ ਗੋਜਰਾ, 'ਵਰਤਮਾਨ ਹਿੰਦੁਸਤਾਨ' ਰਸਾਲੇ ਦੇ ਸੰਪਾਦਕ ਸਰਬ ਸ਼ਕਤੀਮਾਨ, ਨਾਮਧਾਰੀ ਦਰਬਾਰ ਦੇ ਮੀਤ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਜਸਵੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਾਮਧਾਰੀ ਤੇ ਸੁਬਾ ਬਲਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਆਦਿ ਨੇ ਸ਼ਿਰਕਤ ਕੀਤੀ।

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https://archive.org/details/namdhari

Centre to commemorate 200th anniversary of Satguru Ram Singh

PTI December 16, 2016

The decision was taken on Thursday at a joint meeting of two Executive Committees constituted for commemoration of birth centenary of Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya and 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh.

The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the meeting. In a move to woo the voters in Punjab ahead of Assembly polls next year, the Centre has decided to commemorate 200th birth anniversary of Satguru Ram Singh, the founder of the Sikh's Namdhari sect. The decision was taken on Thursday at a joint meeting of two Executive Committees constituted for commemoration of birth centenary of Pt Deendayal

Upadhyaya and 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh. The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the meeting.

Several other ministers, including Finance Minister Arun Jaitely, and dignitaries are members of these committees. “During the course of the meeting, it has been decided to commemorate 200th Birth Anniversary of Satguru Ram Singh in a befitting manner,” an official release said.

The decision was taken keeping in view the contributions made by him towards the cause of the society, it said. Born on February 12, 1816, Singh founded the Namdhari sect. Namdharis consider themselves a sect of Sikhism but insist that the line of Sikh gurus did not end with Guru Gobind Singh and was continued through the Namdhari leaders.

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A stamp released on the Kuka Movement by the Centre in 2014. Tribune file photo

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Key slice of Kuka history gathers dust in Pak

Amaninder Pal

Tribune News Service Feb 11 2016

Centre has failed to get back letters penned by movement leader Baba Ram Singh; his 200th birth anniversary tomorrow

Seized by the British

The letters were written in Gurmukhi by Baba Ram Singh in 1878-89

Besides, a file containing papers linked to the Kuka cult lies unexplored at Peshawar's State Archives

Kuka Martyrs' Memorial Trust vice-chairman claims they requested the Centre several times to approach Pakistan, but to no avail

Even as Punjab government is organising state-level function on Friday to observe the 200th birth anniversary of revered Satguru Ram Singh, letters written by the Namdhari leader and files related to the Kuka Movement lie unexplored at Peshawar's State Archives in Pakistan.

The letters were seized by the British during the Kuka uprising. Namdhari leaders and scholars claim that the documents were not shifted to India after Partition and even their copies were not available anywhere, leaving researchers unaware about the content of the letters and British files.

They said all efforts to bring the documents back had remained futile due to strained India-Pakistan relations.

Jaswinder Singh, Delhi-based researcher who authored several books on the Kuka Movement and traced several documents related to the uprising, said that hardly anybody was aware about these documents even after more than six decades post-Partition.

“Around the mid-1980s, I chanced upon an entry in a register in the National Archives, New Delhi, that had a reference about these documents. Thereafter, in 1992, I along with British-based Namdhari scholar Surjeet Singh Jeet consulted India Office Library, London, where a book on the State Archives of Pakistan confirmed about the existence of these documents”, said Jaswinder Singh.

Published by Cambridge University Press in 1969, “Guide to National and State Archives In Ceylon, India and Pakistan”, had reference that till 1948, the documents were lying in the Central Record Office, Peshawar. The documents included “letters written by Baba Ram Singh in 1878-89 in Gurmukhi” and “papers concerned with Kuka cult”.

Besides, the guide also states that “confidential files, including extensive record on Kuka outbreak from 1848-80” did also exist in the Government Record Office, Lahore (Pakistan).

“I am not sure whether copies of original Lahore files were ever made or not. But it is confirmed that a copy of the Peshawar documents is not available,” added Jaswinder.

Surinder Singh Namdhari, vice-chairman of Kuka Martyrs' Memorial Trust, said, "For the past over two decades, we are trying that these documents should be brought to India as they certainly have great historical value. We have requested the Union government several times to approach Pakistan, but to no avail. We will continue our efforts."

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Namdhari Samagam concludes

Tribune News Service

Ludhiana, December 31,2016

A two-day seminar on Satguru Ram Singh Ji of Namdhari Sect, held by the Punjab Sahit Academy and Punjabi Academy Delhi concluded at Punjabi Bhawan here today with dignitaries from far-off attending the seminar.

The dignitaries threw light on the preaching struggle by Satguru Ram Singh. The academic session was held under the leadership of Dr Tejwant Singh.

Kuka Leher, Namdhari Leher etc were discussed by the participants and dignitaries. They also threw light on the achievements of Satguru Ram Singh.

The dignitaries presented papers on different topics concerning Namdhari Sect. Dr Sarabjit Singh also spoke about the contribution of Kuka Leher during the Independence move. Kuka Lehar played an essential

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part during the British regime. It is also considered as the first freedom fight of India, which reflected the bravery of many Sikh fighters.

The concluding session was chaired by the president of Punjabi Sahit Academy Dr Sukhdev Singh Sirsa and the chief guest was HS Hanspal.

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Seminar on Namdhari- Dogra relations held at Abhinav Theatre

25/11/2016 by Dailyexcelsior

Excelsior Correspondent

Dignitaries lighting the lamp during a function of Namdhari Sangat at Abhinav Theatre on Thursday.

JAMMU, Nov 24: Namdhari Sangat Jammu and Kashmir and Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh Foundation

organized a seminar on Namdhari-Dogra relations: Formation of Kuka regiments in J&K in collaboration with History Department University of Jammu under the presence of Uday Singh Ji head of Namdhari sect at Abhinav theater auditorium as the part of 200th birth anniversary of Ram Singh Ji. .Uday Singh Ji in his address to the participants stressed upon to live up to the standards of life as taught by Ram Singh ji. He said that Ram Singh ji was the pioneer of freedom struggle and the non cooperative movement in India against the British always stressed upon the gender equality. He further stressed to educated the women and stop female infanticide and asked the youth to avoid intoxication of every type and build a strong nation.Sat Sharma MLA and the president State BJP while speaking on the occasion said that we must follow the path shown by Ram Singh ji.Padamshree Er. S.P. Varma president Gandhi Global Family also spoke on the occasion.While presenting paper on the subject authors said that Maharaja Ranbir Singh was having very cordial relations with the anti British forces in rest of India. He always tried to encourage them. His approach towards nationalistic people was very significant. His relations with Kuka were well known

therefore in the” course of 1870 the Maharaja raised two companies of Kukas, of one hundred men each, with the intention of making them the recruiters, whom he sent into the Punjab. But as Britishers were annoyed with Kukas Maharaja dismissed them later.Prof. Shailender Singh Jamwal of History Department of JU, Arvind Singh, Sant Harpal Singh, S. Suwarn Singh Virk presented papers on the topic.Rajesh Gupta MLA, Promodh Kapahi vice president State BJP, Baba Ajit Singh ji Pramukh Sant Nirankari Mission J&K, Sant Gurmukh Singh Rehbar general secretary Vishaw Namdhari Sangat, Manish Joshi President GGF (Youth) were present among others.S. Amar Singh Kuka presented Vote of Thanks.

SaMaPa Aalap Festival

Spellbinding music marks Day 7

Rising Kashmir News Jammu -23/02/2016

The ongoing 10th annual edition of SaMaPa Aalap Festival by SaMaPa (Sopori Academy of Music And Performing Arts) on its 7th day today featured spellbinding recitals of music.

The concert was held at Jammu Sanskriti School featuring vocal recital by Pritam Bhattacharjee, Sitar recital by Ustad Rafique Khan and Dogri folk music by Shamsher Gulam Mohd. and Party. S

Bhattacharjee, a disciple of legendary vocalist Pt. Jasraj of Mewati Gharana, presented Raga Ahir Bhairav singing various Bandishes in Mattaal and Teentaal explaining the audience the basics of vocal system and

made the young children sing with him the notes of the raga. His soulful singing, clarity of notes and taans mesmerized the listeners. He was accompanied on Tabla by well known Tabla exponent Pt. Mithilesh Jha besides Abid Hussain, a brilliant young musician, accompanied him on Sarangi and Bua Ditta, well known Harmonium player and Composer from Jammu, accompanied him on Harmonium.

Ustad Rafique Khan, a famous artist from Gwalior Gharana presented Raga Parmeshwari and various Gats in Madhyala and Drutlaya Teentaal spellbinding the audience. He was accompanied by Pt. Mithilesh Jha on Tabla. This was followed by scintillating Dogri folk music by Shamsher Gulam Mohd. and party.

Commissioner Secretary and Chief Electoral Officer of J&K, Shantmanu appreciated the efforts of music maestro Abhay Rustum Sopori and SaMaPa for their love and dedication towards promotion of music in the State and the country.

The concert started with a choral presentation by the young children of the school which was attended by over 600 children including hundreds of local art lovers from the area and music connoisseurs.

Rohini Aima, Principal, expressed her gratitude to SaMaPa for its efforts in bringing the internationally acclaimed musicians to the remote areas of the State and giving a golden opportunity to young children and general public to witness the concerts of both young talent and legends of Indian music.

Harpreet Singh, Chairperson, presented vote of thanks and gave away mementos to the guests and the artists.

In another session at the Namdhari Dharamshala at Jammu, the young Namdhari children commenced the programme with their brief recitals. Hardyal Kaur presented a Gurubani Shabad followed by Parhtaal in Raga Bahar by Basant Kaur and Harkirat Kaur, and Dilruba recital by Hakam Singh who presented Raga Patdeep. Pritam Bhattacharjee presented Bada Khayal and Chotta Khayal in Raga Charukeshi and Ustad Rafique Khan presented Rupaktaal and Teentaal in Raga Jhinjhoti and concluded his recital with a Gat in Raga Kafi.

Prof. Kailash Mehra was the chief guest on the occasion. Suba Sukhdev Singh, Head of the Namdhari Sangat, Jammu and Dr. Taran Singh, President of the

Sangat felicitated maestro Abhay Sopori and the performing musicians with bouquets, shawls and mementos.

Abhay Sopori expressed his gratitude to all who have made the festival a success and the Sangat for being a part of the SaMaPa movement in preserving the cultural identity of the State.

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